



COUNCILMEMBER CARL DEMaIO

FIFTH DISTRICT

CITY OF SAN DIEGO

MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 2, 2011

TO: Honorable City Council Members

FROM: Councilmember Carl DeMaio *Carl DeMaio*

RE: City Council Legislation to Prevent Termination of Trash Services

At today's Natural Resources & Culture (NR&C) committee, the Council directed the City Attorney's office to prepare the necessary legislation to protect 14,000 residents and units in the City of San Diego that are threatened by the Mayor's office with unilateral elimination of their basic trash services.

As the service cut-off deadline is quickly approaching, the motion requests a date certain vote on this legislation of April 19, 2011 – and I urge your support for this legislation.

As you may know, the Mayor proposes to unilaterally terminate dozens of "hold harmless agreements" that were explicitly provided for in the 1986 vote on amending the People's Ordinance. This action is being taken without City Council input or approval. It is important to note that San Diego voters cast votes in that election with the assurance that trash service would continue for units covered under these agreements.

Cutting off basic services and imposing a higher cost-of-living on San Diegans should be the last, not first, option selected in our mutual efforts to balance the city's budget. Before trash services cuts are even contemplated, the Mayor and City Council have an obligation to pursue efficiencies such as reforming pensions or implementing managed competition of the trash function.

As you weigh your decision to support this legislation, I wanted to invite you to join me in co-hosting a Town Hall at the Oaks North Community Center in Rancho Bernardo on April 13, 2010 at 6pm. This public forum is designed to allow Home Owner Association representatives and affected residents will share their views on the proposed service cut.

We will continue to reach out to communities impacted by this decision and encourage them to work with your individual offices on solutions.